

From: Robert Dodier
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 8:27pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello,

The proposed Microsoft settlement does nothing to resolve an extremely important problem: MS is not required to disclosed the file formats for any of its applications. Lack of information about these file formats (e.g., the MS Word format) leaves developers of MS-compatible applications always playing "catch up" with MS; MS can, at will, break compatible software by changing the file formats. This puts developers of compatible software at a very great disadvantage compared to MS.

The settlement should address this issue by requiring MS to disclose the file format used by each application, and to keep these disclosed formats up-to-date, by disclosing the file format used by any new product or new version of an existing product.

Regards,

Robert Dodier
Boulder, CO
Programmer

Do You Yahoo!?
Great stuff seeing new owners in Yahoo! Auctions!
<http://auctions.yahoo.com>